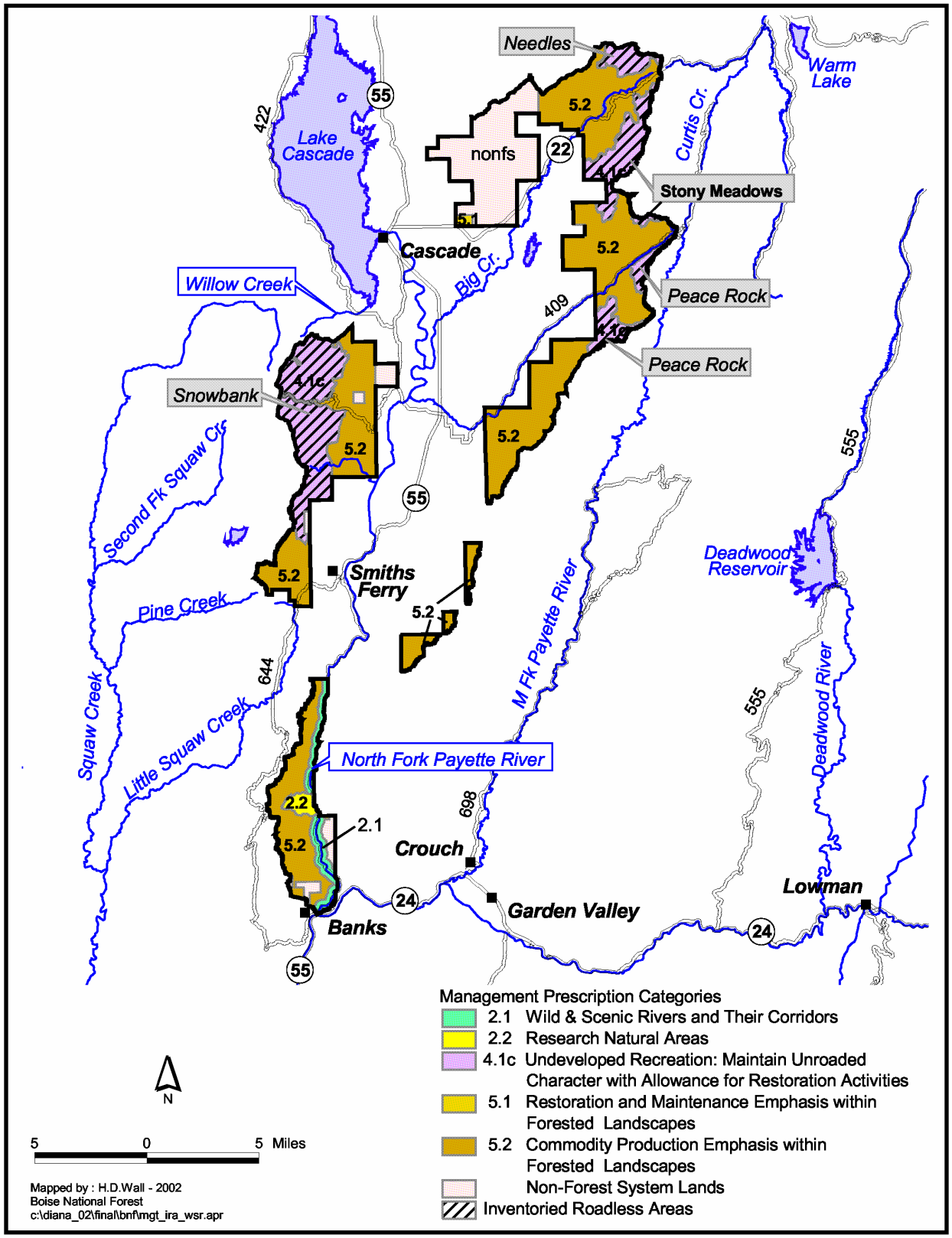
Management Area 17 - North Fork Payette River Location Map



Management Area 17
North Fork Payette River

MANAGEMENT AREA DESCRIPTION

Management Prescriptions - Management Area 17 has the following management prescriptions (see map on preceding page for distribution of prescriptions).

Management Prescription Category (MPC)	Percent of Mgt. Area
2.2 – Research Natural Areas	1
4.1c – Maintain Unroaded Character with Allowance for Restoration Activities	27
5.1 – Restoration and Maintenance Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	Trace
5.2 – Commodity Production Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	72

General Location and Description - Management Area 17 is comprised of lands administered by the Boise National Forest within the North Fork Payette River drainage, from Banks to Cascade (see map, opposite page). The area lies in Valley and Boise Counties, and is part of the Emmett and Cascade Ranger Districts. The management area is an estimated 78,500 acres, of which the Forest Service manages 83 percent, 2 percent are private lands, and 15 percent are State of Idaho lands. The primary uses or activities in this management area have been dispersed and developed recreation, timber management, and livestock grazing.

Access - The main access to the area is by paved State Highway 55 and well maintained, gravel-surfaced Snowbank Mountain Road and Clear Creek Road (Forest Roads 446 and 409). The density of classified roads in the management area is an estimated 3.0 miles per square mile, although part of the area is inventoried as roadless. Total road density for area subwatersheds ranges between 1.9 and 6.0 miles per square mile. Access is primarily by road in this area, with few if any maintained trails.

Special Features – State Highway 55 has been designated as a state and federal scenic byway. Prominent landmarks in this area include Tripod Peak and Snowbank Mountain. The Dry Buck RNA (582 acres) lies along the southern limit of grand fir in Idaho. An estimated 18 percent of the management area is inventoried as roadless, including portions of the Snowbank, Needles, Peace Rock, and Stony Meadows Roadless Areas.

One eligible Wild and Scenic River, the North Fork Payette River, falls within the management area. The Payette River has one segment in this area with a classification of Recreational. It is an estimated 12.5 miles, with a river corridor area of 4,000 acres. The North Fork is considered eligible for Wild and Scenic River status because of its outstandingly remarkable recreational values.

Air Quality - Portions of this management area lie within Montana/Idaho Airsheds ID-14 and ID-15 and in Gem, Boise and Valley Counties. Particulate matter is the primary pollutant of concern related to Forest management. There is an ambient air monitor located within the airshed in Garden Valley to evaluate current background levels, trends, and seasonal patterns of particulate matter. The closest Class I areas are the Sawtooth, Hells Canyon, and Eagle Cap Wildernesses. Visibility monitoring has been expanded for these areas.

Between 1995 and 1999, emissions trends in both counties improved for PM 10, while PM 2.5 emissions remained constant. The most common sources of particulate matter in the counties were wildfire, prescribed fire, and fugitive dust from unpaved roads. In addition to Forest management activities, crop residue and ditch burning may contribute to particulate matter emissions, although the amount of agricultural-related burning was very low within all three counties (1,700 acres total). There were no point sources within Boise and Valley Counties. In Gem County (near Emmett) point sources may have contributed to particulate matter emissions.

Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources - Elevations range from 2,800 feet on the North Fork Payette River to 8,322 feet atop Snowbank Mountain. Management Area 17 falls primarily within the Long Valley Foothills and Long Valley Basin Subsections. The main geomorphic landforms are glacial trough lands, frost-churned uplands and mountain slopes, depositional lands, and fluvial mountain slopes. Slope gradients average between 0 to 20 percent on depositional lands, 15 to 40 percent in the frost-churned uplands, and between 30 to 80 percent in the glacial trough lands and fluvial mountain slopes. The surface geology is predominately granite from the Idaho Batholith east of the North Fork. West Mountain is a transition area between the Idaho batholith and Columbia River basalts. Soils generally have low to high surface erosion potential, and low to high productivity. Subwatershed vulnerability ratings range from low to moderate (see table below). Geomorphic Integrity ratings for the subwatersheds vary from moderate (functioning at risk) to low (not functioning appropriately) (see table below). In some locations, roads, timber harvest, livestock grazing, and recreation uses have resulted in accelerated erosion, stream channel modification, and streambank degradation.

The management area is in portions of the Lower North Fork Payette River, Clear-Olsen, and Beaver-Big Watersheds of the North Fork Payette River Subbasin. The major streams in the area are the North Fork Payette River, Clear Creek, and Big Creek. Several high mountain lakes occur in the West Mountain area, including Blue, Hidden, Lost, Skein, Raft, and Shirts Lakes. The Howell-Phillips and Big Eddy subwatersheds are part of state-regulated public water systems for the community of Horseshoe Bend. Water Quality Integrity ratings for the subwatersheds vary from high (functioning appropriately) to moderate (functioning at risk) to low (not functioning appropriately), with the majority being moderate (see table below). Some locations have impacts from roads, timber harvest, livestock grazing, irrigation, and recreation use that have increased habitat alteration, flow alteration, nutrients, temperature, and sediment. Three of the 13 subwatersheds in this area were listed in 1998 as having impaired water bodies under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act. These subwatersheds are Tripod-Murray, Upper Clear Creek, and Lower Clear Creek. The pollutant of concern was sediment in the Clear Creek subwatersheds. The pollutant in the Tripod-Murray subwatershed was unknown. There are currently no TMDL-assigned subwatersheds associated with this area.

Subwatershed Vulnerability			Geomorphic Integrity			Water Quality Integrity			No. 303(d) Subs	No. Subs With TMDLs	No. Public Water System Subs
High	Mod.	Low	High	Mod.	Low	High	Mod.	Low			
0	5	7	0	6	6	1	10	1	3	0	2

Anadromous fish species no longer exist within area streams due to downstream dams that block their migration routes to and from the ocean. Threatened bull trout have not been recently documented in this area. Recreational fish streams include Big, Clear, and Fawn Creeks, and the North Fork Payette River. Aquatic habitat is functioning at risk in some locations due to stream flow alteration, and accelerated sediment from roads, timber management, livestock grazing, and recreation uses. Native fish populations are at risk due to the presence of non-native fish species.

Vegetation - Vegetation at lower elevations is typically grasslands and shrublands and dry ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir on south and west aspects, and Douglas-fir and grand fir forests on north and east aspects. Mid-elevations are dominated by shrubs and forest communities of grand fir, Douglas-fir, and subalpine fir, with pockets of persistent lodgepole pine and aspen. Forest communities of subalpine fir and whitebark pine are found in the upper elevations, interspersed with cliffs and talus slopes.

An estimated 8 percent of the management area is comprised of rock, water, or shrubland and grassland vegetation groups, including Mountain Big Sage, Montane Shrub, Perennial Grass Slopes, and Perennial Grass Montane. The main forested vegetation groups in the area are Dry Grand Fir (9 percent), Warm Dry Douglas-Fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine (11 percent), Cool Dry Douglas-fir (11 percent), Cool Moist Grand Fir (25 percent), and Warm Dry Subalpine Fir (25 percent).

The Mountain Big Sage and Montane Shrub groups are functioning properly, with only minor impacts from past livestock grazing. The Perennial Grass Slopes and Perennial Grass Montane groups are at or near properly functioning condition; however, past grazing impacts and introduced species have altered composition and structure in localized areas. Rush skeletonweed and other noxious weeds are increasing.

The Dry Grand Fir, Warm Dry Douglas-Fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine (11%), and Cool Moist Grand Fir groups are not functioning properly due primarily to timber management and fire exclusion that have altered stand composition and structure. In managed areas, stands are dominantly young and mid-aged, with relatively few large trees, snags, and large woody debris. In unmanaged areas, stands have more late-seral grand fir and less early seral ponderosa pine than desirable, and moderate to high levels of insect and disease infestations. Large-tree, single-storied stand structure is mostly absent. Noxious weeds and introduced species are increasing in the understory.

Warm Dry Subalpine Fir and Cool Dry Douglas-fir groups are functioning at risk due to localized impacts from timber harvest and fire exclusion. Late seral subalpine fir is increasing, and seral Douglas-fir and aspen are decreasing.

Riparian vegetation is functioning at risk due to localized impacts from past timber harvest, roads, recreation, and livestock grazing. Noxious weeds and introduced plant species are increasing.

Botanical Resources – Giant helleborine orchid and Idaho douglasia, Region 4 Sensitive species, occur in this management area. No federally listed or proposed plant species are known to occur in this area, but potential habitat for Ute ladies'-tresses, Spalding's silene, and slender moonwort may exist. Ute ladies'-tresses, a Threatened species, may have moderate to high potential habitat in riparian/wetland areas from 1,000 to 7,000 feet. Spalding's silene, a Threatened species, may occur in fescue grassland habitats from 1,500 to 5,500 feet. Slender moonwort, a Candidate species, may occur in moderate to higher elevation grasslands, meadows, and small openings in spruce and lodgepole pine.

Non-native Plants – An estimated 39 percent of the management area is highly susceptible to invasion by noxious weeds and exotic plant species. Spotted knapweed, rush skeletonweed, and Canada thistle are currently the main weeds of concern in this management area.

Subwatersheds in the table below have an inherently high risk of weed establishment and spread from activities identified with a "yes" in the various activity columns. This risk is due to the amount of drainage area that is highly susceptible to noxious weed invasion and the relatively high level of exposure from those identified vectors or carriers of weed seed.

Subwatershed	Road-related Activities	Livestock Use	Timber Harvest	Recreation & Trail Use	ATV Off-Road Use
Big Eddy	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Tripod-Murray	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Howell-Phillips	No	No	Yes	No	No

Wildlife Resources - Ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir forests at lower elevations provide habitat for white-headed woodpecker and flammulated owl, and winter range for deer and elk. Osprey and bald eagle habitat are found along the North Fork Payette River corridor. Grand fir forests at lower and mid elevations provide habitat for Region 4 sensitive species, goshawk and great gray owl. High-elevation forests provide habitat for boreal owls, three-toed woodpeckers, and wolverine, as well as summer range for mammals such as deer, elk, black bear, and mountain lion. All habitats provide nesting and forage for migratory landbirds. The northern Idaho ground squirrel historically occurred in some of the meadows and open pine stands. These areas may offer potential habitat for current population expansion. Terrestrial wildlife habitat is functioning at risk due to habitat changes from timber harvest and fire exclusion, fragmentation from roads and harvest, and disturbance from recreation uses.

Recreation Resources - The Snowbank IRA features undeveloped recreation with non-motorized trail opportunities and high visual sensitivity. Dispersed recreation in the rest of the area includes hunting, fishing, ATV use, snowmobiling, horseback riding, hiking, backpacking, camping, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling. Snowmobile use is increasing, and the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation grooms many miles of trail in the area. Both trail and cross-country snowmobiling are very popular in the West Mountains area. The North Fork Payette River and Clear Creek corridors have objectives designed to protect visual quality. The North

Fork Payette River provides river-oriented recreation, including five developed campgrounds and some of the more challenging whitewater rapids in the west. Much of the use comes from the Treasure Valley or beyond. The area is in Idaho Fish and Game Management Units 24 and 32A. Recreation special uses include commercial campground operations in the North Fork Payette River corridor, the Williams Creek recreation residence tract, and two outfitter and guide operations.

Cultural Resources - Cultural themes in this area include Prehistoric Archaeology, Ethnic History, Agriculture, Ranching, Settlement, Transportation, Forest Service History, and Timber. Historic properties in this management area are associated with Indian fishing and gathering, and historic grazing and logging on the North Fork Payette River and Long Valley. Shoshone and Nez Perce Indians fished for salmon and gathered camas in the lower elevations well into the twentieth century. West Mountain Ridge was an important transportation corridor for Shoshone Indians, and later stockmen traveling between the Weiser River and Long Valley. The Forest Service established the Crawford and High Valley Guard Stations in 1906. There were also two Forest administrative sites on Clear Creek. The Oregon Shortline built the Idaho Northern Railroad branch from Horseshoe Bend to McCall between 1912 and 1915. In the 1920s, logging became the dominant industry in this area. Boise-Payette Lumber Company established several mill towns and railroad camps along the North Fork Payette River and Clear Creek.

Timberland Resources - Of the estimated 57,400 tentatively suited acres in this management area, 34,300 acres have been identified as being suited timberlands, or appropriate for timber production. This represents about 6 percent of the Forest's suited timberland acres. The suited timberland acres are found in MPCs 5.1 and 5.2, as shown on the map displaying the MPCs for this management area. Lands within MPCs 2.2 and 4.1c are identified as not suited for timber production. Outside of the North Fork Payette River corridor, intensive timber activities have occurred in Management Area 17. Forest products such as fuelwood, posts, and poles are also collected in designated areas.

Rangeland Resources - This area has portions of two cattle allotments and one active sheep allotment. Management Area 17 provides an estimated 5,600 acres of capable rangeland. These acres represent about 1 percent of the capable rangeland on the Forest.

Mineral Resources - This area is open for mineral activities and prospecting. The potential for locatable minerals is low to unknown. The potential for geothermal resources is moderate to unknown. The potential for other leasable minerals is low. The potential for common variety mineral materials is moderate or unknown in most of the area, but high in the West Mountain area.

Fire Management - Prescribed fire has been used to reduce activity-generated fuels. This management area is not in the Forest's wildland fire use planning area, so no wildland fire use is anticipated. No large wildfires have occurred in the area in the last 15 years. Cascade and Smiths Ferry are nearby National Fire Plan communities. Howell-Phillips, Tripod-Murray, Fawn-Alpha, Olson-Moores, Lower Clear Creek, Pearsol Creek, High Valley, Beaver Creek, and Upper Big Creek subwatersheds are considered wildland-urban interface areas due to private development adjacent to the Forest. Except for High Valley, Beaver Creek, and Pearsol Creek,

these subwatersheds are also considered to pose risks to life and property from potential post-fire floods and debris flows. Historical fire regimes for the area are estimated to be: 9 percent lethal, 69 percent mixed1 or 2, and 22 percent non-lethal. An estimated 20 percent of the area regimes have vegetation conditions that are highly departed from their historical range. Most of this change has occurred in the historically non-lethal fire regimes, resulting in conditions where wildfire would likely be much larger and more intense and severe than historically. In addition, 40 percent of the area is in moderately departed conditions. Wildfire in these areas may result in somewhat larger patch sizes of high intensity or severity, but not to the same extent as in the highly departed areas in non-lethal fire regimes.

Lands and Special Uses - Special uses include designated electronic communication sites on Snowbank Mountain, utility corridors along Forest Road 422, and a designated utility corridor containing the Emmett-Stibnite power transmission line.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION

In addition to Forest-wide Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines that provide direction for all management areas, the following direction has been developed specifically for this area.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 2.1 Wild and Scenic Rivers	General Standard	1701	Manage the North Fork Payette River eligible corridor to its assigned Recreational classification standards, and preserve its ORVs and free-flowing status, until the river undergoes a suitability study and the study finds it suitable for designation by Congress, or releases it from further consideration as a Wild and Scenic River.
	Vegetation Guideline	1702	In Recreational corridors, mechanical vegetation treatments, including salvage harvest, may be used as long as ORVs are maintained within the river corridor.
	Fire Guideline	1703	Prescribed fire may be used in any river corridor as long as ORVs are maintained within the corridor.
	Fire Guideline	1704	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize strategies and tactics that minimize the impacts of suppression activities on river classifications and ORVs.
MPC 2.2 Research Natural Areas	General Objective	1705	Coordinate activities in the Dry Buck RNA with Rocky Mountain Research Station. Emphasize introduction of prescribed fire.
	General Standard	1706	Mechanical vegetation treatments, salvage harvest, and prescribed fire may only be used to maintain values for which the areas were established, or to achieve other objectives that are consistent with the RNA establishment record or management plan.
	Road Standard	1707	Road construction or reconstruction may only occur where needed: a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty, or c) To maintain the values for which the RNA was established.
	Fire Guideline	1708	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Fire suppression strategies and tactics should minimize impacts to the values for which the RNA was established.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 4.1c Undeveloped Recreation: Maintain Unroaded Character with Allowance for Restoration Activities	General Standard	1709	Management actions—including mechanical vegetation treatments, salvage harvest, prescribed fire, special use authorizations, and road maintenance—must be designed and implemented in a manner that would be consistent with the unroaded landscape in the temporary, short term, and long term. Exceptions to this standard are actions in the 4.1c road standard, below.
	Road Standard	1710	Road construction or reconstruction may only occur where needed: a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty.
	Fire Guideline	1711	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize tactics that minimize impacts of suppression activities on the unroaded landscape in the area.
MPC 5.1 Restoration and Maintenance Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	Vegetation Guideline	1712	The full range of treatment activities, except wildland fire use, may be used to restore and maintain desired vegetation and fuel conditions. Salvage harvest may also occur.
	Fire Guideline	1713	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize strategies and tactics that minimize impacts to habitats, developments, and investments.
	Road Guideline	1714	Road construction or reconstruction may occur where needed: a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty, or c) To achieve restoration and maintenance objectives for vegetation, water quality, aquatic habitat, or terrestrial habitat; or d) To support management actions taken to reduce wildfire risks in wildland-urban interface areas; or e) To meet access and travel management objectives.
MPC 5.2 Commodity Production Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	Fire Guideline	1715	Prescribed fire may be used to: a) Maintain or restore desired vegetative conditions on unsuited timberlands; or b) Maintain or restore desired fuel conditions for all vegetation types; or c) Maintain desired vegetative conditions on suited timberlands within PVGs 2 through 10.
	Fire Guideline	1716	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize strategies and tactics that minimize impacts to developments and investments.
Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources	Objective	1717	Restore or maintain water quality and bank stability on tributary streams to the North Fork Payette River. Manage sediment delivery to achieve an improving trend toward long-term goals.
	Objective	1718	Coordinate with State of Idaho to reduce sediment from State Highway 55.
	Objective	1719	Work with private landowners in Round Valley and Chair Creek to evaluate riparian and aquatic habitat and make improvement where possible.
	Objective	1720	Restore soil and watershed conditions in the Snowbank Mountain area, emphasizing Forest Road 446 and higher-elevation areas.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Vegetation	Objective	1721	Restore and maintain species composition, tree size classes, and stand structure consistent with the range of desired conditions in the Dry Grand Fir, Warm Dry Douglas-Fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine, and Cool Moist Grand Fir vegetation groups as described in Appendix A. Manage for ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, and western larch as early seral tree species.
	Objective	1722	Evaluate meadow comp lex at Tripod Meadows to determine the need to maintain in lodgepole pine.
Botanical Resources	Objective	1723	Maintain or restore known populations and occupied habitats of TEPCS plant species, including giant helleborine orchid and Idaho douglasia, to contribute to the long-term viability of these species.
	Standard	1724	Implement the Forest Service approved portions of the conservation strategy for Idaho douglasia to maintain or restore populations and habitat of this species.
Non-native Plants	Objective	1725	Manage designated non-native, invasive weeds in an integrated approach, as specified in the Strategic and Annual Operating Plans established by the Upper Payette River Cooperative Weed Management Area Participants.
	Objective	1726	Prevent the establishment of invasive plants and eradicate or control existing noxious weeds along State Highway 55 in order to contain the spread of noxious weeds and exotic plant species. Emphasize treatment of spotted knapweed, rush skeletonweed, and Canada thistle, particularly along Warm Lake Highway and the Road 446.
Wildlife Resources	Objective	1727	Maintain or restore bald eagle wintering habitat along the North Fork Payette River corridor.
	Objective	1728	Maintain or restore shrubland and grassland communities to provide for big-game winter range habitat in low-elevation Mountain Big Sage, Montane Shrub, and Perennial Grass Slopes vegetation groups.
Recreation Resources	Objective	1729	Continue to provide high-quality snowmobiling opportunities, both trail and cross-country, in the Snowbank portion of the management area.
	Objective	1730	Provide over-snow recreation access and emphasize user education to minimize the potential social or environmental impacts.
	Objective	1731	Work cooperatively with other public agencies to develop cross-country skiing opportunities and a yurt system near Cascade to enhance winter recreation opportunities.
	Objective	1732	Develop vegetation management plans for campgrounds along the North Fork of the Payette River.
	Objective	1733	Continue to coordinate with Boise County, Valley County, and Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation on the grooming of snowmobile trails to enhance recreation opportunities.
	Objective	1734	Designate and improve river access points for river users where needed for resource protection and recreationist safety. Emphasize kayak access points to improve recreation opportunities for users.
	Objective	1735	Develop trail management plans to guide trail maintenance activities.
	Objective	1736	Identify and evaluate opportunities along the Highway 55 corridor to increase recreation opportunities and improve experiences through development of additional recreation facilities as well as improvements to and expansion of existing recreation facilities.

<table>
<tr><th>MPC/Resource Area</th><th>Direction</th><th>Number</th><th>Management Direction Description</th></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="9">Recreation Resources</td><td>Objective</td><td>1737</td><td>Facilitate and participate in the development of a Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan for the Payette River Scenic Byway with local government agencies and other partners.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>1738</td><td>Evaluate dispersed recreation activities, including OHV use as well as recreation impacts to other resources and recreation experiences in the Tripod Meadows area. If needed, develop a plan to reduce recreation impacts, expand dispersed recreation opportunities, develop OHV trail systems in appropriate locations, and to manage OHV use to reduce impacts to acceptable levels.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>1739</td><td>Develop parking and information facilities at the trailhead for the Blue Lakes Trail to enhance recreational access and experiences.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>1740</td><td>Monitor non-system trail use and enforce existing travel management regulations in-the high mountain lakes area along West Mountain to reduce impacts from motorized use.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>1741</td><td>Continue use by recreation residences within established recreation residence tracts.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>1742</td><td>Develop vegetation management and fuels management plans for lands adjacent to Williams Creek Recreation residence tract.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>1743</td><td>Achieve or maintain the following ROS strategy:
<table>
<tr><th rowspan="2">ROS Class</th><th colspan="2">Percent of Mgt. Area</th></tr>
<tr><th>Summer</th><th>Winter</th></tr>
<tr><td>Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</td><td>10%</td><td>0%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Semi-Primitive Motorized</td><td>5%</td><td>31%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Roaded Natural</td><td>20%</td><td>19%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Roaded Modified</td><td>65%</td><td>50%</td></tr>
</table>
The above numbers reflect current travel regulations. These numbers may change as a result of future travel regulation planning.</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="3">Cultural Resources</td><td>Goal</td><td>1744</td><td>Identify, protect, and maintain the National Register status of historic properties in the management area.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>1745</td><td>Inventory historic properties associated with early Forest Service administrative facilities and the logging railroad era on Clear Creek and its tributaries.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>1746</td><td>Inventory historic properties associated with early Forest Service administrative facilities, such as East Mountain Lookout, and the railroad-logging era.</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="4">Timberland Resources</td><td>Objective</td><td>1747</td><td>Reduce risk from insect damage, particularly from western spruce budworm, by managing stands in a manner that will begin approaching desired conditions for vegetative components.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>1748</td><td>Reduce hazard from uncharacteristic wildfire and insect epidemics, with primary emphasis on forestlands supporting ponderosa pine.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>1749</td><td>Manage suited timberlands for a sustained yield, even flow of forest products, while reducing sediment delivery and moving toward desired conditions.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>1750</td><td>Emphasize stocking control and fuels reduction in plantations.</td></tr>
</table>

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Timberland Resources	Objective	1751	Reduce the opportunity for noxious weed establishment and spread by keeping suitable weed sites to a minimum during timber harvest activities in the Howell-Phillips, Big Eddy, and Tripod-Murray subwatersheds. Consider such methods as designated skid trails, winter skidding, minimal fire line construction, broadcast burning rather than pile burning, or keeping slash piles small to reduce heat transfer to the soil.
	Guideline	1752	Existing noxious weed infestations should be treated on landings, skid trails, and helibases in the project area before harvest activities begin in the Howell-Phillips, Big Eddy, and Tripod-Murray subwatersheds.
Rangeland Resources	Objective	1753	Reduce conflicts between livestock grazing and dispersed recreation area use in Blue Lake Basin.
	Objective	1754	Evaluate and adjust grazing practices on the east side of the Snowbank Mountain/ West Mountain ridgeline to reduce impacts to watershed resources and conflicts with recreation.
Fire Management	Objective	1755	Use prescribed fire and mechanical treatments within and adjacent to wildland-urban interface areas to reduce wildfire hazards. Develop and prioritize vegetation treatment plans for interface in coordination with local and tribal governments, agencies, and landowners.
	Objective	1756	Coordinate and emphasize fire education and prevention programs with private landowners to help reduce wildfire hazard and risk. Work with landowners to increase defensible space.
Lands and Special Uses	Objective	1757	Pursue a cooperative agreement with Boise Cascade on maintenance and management of Forest Road 645 to provide efficient transportation system management and improve public service.
	Objective	1758	Initiate process to remove Chapin Cabin and decommission the road to the cabin in Phillips Creek to reduce public safety hazards.
	Objective	1759	Coordinate with Boise County and local landowners to improve maintenance on access to Phillips Creek Subdivision. Continue to work towards shifting jurisdiction to the Boise County for the Phillips Creek Road.
	Objective	1760	Evaluate the need for the footbridge across the North Fork Payette River south of Big Eddy camp ground to provide access to the railroad. If the bridge is no longer needed, remove it. If the bridge is needed, place it under a special use permit.
	Objective	1761	Continue the special use permits for the Snowbank Mountain communication site. Update the site plan, and coordinate the management of Forest Road 446 and other development at the site with the Federal Aviation Administration.
	Objective	1762	Develop opportunities for interpretation of the Federal Aviation Administration electronic site on Snowbank Mountain.
Facilities and Roads	Objective	1763	Improve Forest Road 626 to Sage Hen Reservoir recreation areas to facilitate recreational access.
	Objective	1764	Pursue Forest Highway designations for Forest Roads 614 and 626.
	Objective	1765	Update the site plan and improve the Crawford Administrative Site, including the water system, to provide safe and acceptable housing for employees. Maintain the historic character of this historic site.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Facilities and Roads	Objective	1766	Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from road management activities in the Big Eddy and Tripod-Murray subwatersheds. Methods to consider include: ➢ When decommissioning roads, treat weeds before roads are made impassable. ➢ Schedule road maintenance activities when weeds are least likely to be viable or spread. Blade from least to most infested sites. ➢ Consult or coordinate with the district noxious weed coordinator when scheduling road maintenance activities. ➢ Periodically inspect road systems and rights of way. ➢ Avoid accessing water for dust abatement through weed-infested sites, or utilize mitigation to minimize weed seed transport.
Scenic Environment	Standard	1767	Meet the visual quality objectives as represented on the Forest VQO Map, and where indicated in the table below as viewed from the following areas/corridors:

Sensitive Travel Route Or Use Area	Sensitivity Level	Visual Quality Objective								
		Fg			Mg			Bg		
		Variety Class			Variety Class			Variety Class		
		A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
North Fork Payette River	1	R	R	PR	R	PR	PR	R	PR	M
Highway 55	1	R	R	PR	R	PR	M	R	PR	M
Forest Highway 22	1	R	R	PR	R	M	M	R	M	M
Forest Road 446 (portion above Road 404 intersection)	1	R	R	PR	R	M	M	R	M	M
Forest Trail 119	1	R	R	PR	R	M	M	R	M	M
Forest Roads 417, 446 (lower portion)	2	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	MM
Forest Roads 409, 497, 626, 644, 645	2	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	MM
Forest Trails 099, 106, 111, 150	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
East Mountain Lookout	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Williams Creek Summer Homes	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Snowbank Communication Site	2	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	MM